Development of Agriculture

276. SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to launch new schemes for the development of Agriculture in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Several new schemes for development of horticulture, fisheries, balanced and integrated use of fertilisers, etc. are proposed to be taken up for the development of agriculture.

Integrated programme for Rice Development

277. SHRI RAM DAS AGARWAL: will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have approved/sponsored the Integrated programme for Rice-Development (IPRD) in the country during 1992-93;

(b) if so, the total amount allocated for implementation thereof indicating what amount Centre would provide for this scheme and what would be the share of contribution by States in this regard during 1992-93:

(c) what are the aims and objectives of IPRD; and

(d) whether any district-wise pro gramme chalked out for promotion [cul tivation of *new* high yielding varieties of Rice and package of agronomic practices etc., if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An outlay of Rs. 105.25 crore comprising Rs. 79.50 crore as Government of India's share and Rs 25.70 crore as State share has been sanctioned for 1992-93!

(c) The implementation of IPRD aims at increasing the production and productivity of rice through propagation of adoption of improved rice production tecrnology.

(d) Programme for promotion|propa-gat'on of cultivation of location specific high yielding varieties and improved packages of agronomic practices etc. for different areas districts are worked|chalked out by the respective States.

New Agriculture Policy

278. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRI YASHWANT SINHA:
SHRI DAYANAND SAHAY:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister of State for .Agriculture while addressing a seminar in New Delhi on 8th June, 1992, on 'Agricultural Policy, declared that agriculture is to be made an indusry;

(b) if so, what progress has so far been made in this regard;

(c) whether Govtrnment have formulated New Agriculture Policy;

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be introduced in the Parliament; and

(e) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) A draft of an Agricultural Policy Resolution was circulated to States|UTs and Agricultural Universities in March, 1991 to elicit their com ments. The draft is now in process of finalisation.